

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 229794

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:BBMORTON:AP
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229794

STADIS////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, MASS, IR

SUBJ: GAO REVIEW OF SECURITY AND RELATED ASSISTANCE
TO IRAN

REF: TEHRAN 8175

1. AS EXPLAINED TO US NOV. 20 BY GAO TEAM, GAO WISHED TO
DO STUDY ON SECURITY ASSISTANCE WITH EMPHASIS ON FMS.
IRAN CHOSEN BECAUSE OF PUBLICITY SURROUNDING ITS RECENT
ORDERS. GAO HAD ASSUMED IRAN WOULD BE FAIRLY TYPICAL OF
OUR FMS CUSTOMERS, ALTHOUGH TEAM MADE AWARE DURING THIS
INITIAL MEETING THAT THAT ASSUMPTION INCORRECT.

2. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE AT THIS POINT THAT STUDY OR CHOICE
OF IRAN PROMPTED BY ANY SPECIFIC MEMBER OF CONGRESS. GAO
TEAMS ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE ON NUMBER OF FOREIGN POLICY
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PAGE 02 STATE 229794

TOPICS.

3. WE ARE PROVIDING COPY OF GAO WORKSHEET ON STUDY, WHICH

MAY ARRIVE TOO LATE TO BE OF USE TO YOU. IN GENERAL DOCUMENT INDICATES INTEREST IN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN APPROVING FMS AND MC CASES AND ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND MILITARY FACTORS CONSIDERED. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS INCLUDE: A) WHAT US IS OR SHOULD BE GETTING OUT OF SALES OTHER THAN SALES REVENUE, E.G., GUARANTEED OIL SUPPLY? B) DO SALES HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES? C) ARE RESTRICTIONS IN FMSA SECTION 1 THAT SALES MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH MILITARY REQUIREMENT BEING APPLIED? D) WILL IRAN BE ABLE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT? IF NOT, WILL TAFT NEED TO BE INCREASED? E) IS THERE CASE FOR SEEKING REIMBURSEMENT FOR MATERIAL PROVIDED UNDER MAP OR GRANT AID? F) IS IRAN UNNECESSARILY DIVERTING ITS RESOURCES FROM ITS OWN DEVELOPMENT INTO MILITARY EXPENDITURES? KISSINGER

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